

ELECTRONIC MAIL MESSAGE ANTI-VIRUS SYSTEM AND METHOD**ABSTRACT**

An anti-virus system for electronic mail messages having detection means
5 for determining the presence of an electronic mail message and analysing and
scanning means for detecting in the electronic mail message any tags indicating the
presence of operable program code, such tags and operable code are removed from
the electronic message before the message is delivered to the intended recipient.
Means may also be provided for separately scanning the body and attachments of
10 the message and for quarantining either body text or an attachment that is found to
contain operable code until a decision is made whether the operable code should be
deleted.